

WE CELEBRATE  
**Mark Mansell**



NEW MEXICO BUREAU OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES

# REMEMBERING Mark Mansell

**Mark Mansell**, our valued friend, colleague and longtime employee of the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, passed away on April 4, 2023. He was 61. Mark, whose work at the Bureau focused on creating maps and analyzing spatial data, joined our organization as a full-time employee in 1996.

On the outside, Mark could come across as gruff. But all of us who knew him can attest to his fundamental kindness and his “get it done” attitude on work projects. As former Bureau director Peter Scholle wrote, “I can’t count the number of times he dropped everything he was doing to help me with a project, even long after I retired.” Mark’s dogged determination to get things done right is well summed up in this quote by Thomas Edison from his email signature: “I have not failed. I’ve just found 10,000 ways that won’t work.”

Although Mark’s job was largely in the office, he loved being outdoors, and was enthusiastic about helping out colleagues on field projects and New Mexico Geological Society field conferences, of which he attended many. We will all miss Mark on these field trips, and in so many other ways.



I really liked Mark, and he was a big part of the Bureau for years. He'll be missed by all of us.

✧ Lewis Land

*Mark on an NMGS Fall Field Conference ✧ Photo by Dana Ulmer-Scholle*





Mark was always dependable and was such a fixture of the Bureau. It will be different now that he is gone. I will miss him.

✧ Dan Koning

*Mark with Jennifer Lindline at Lake Roberts ✧ Photo by John Hawley*



Those of us who knew Mark will always remember him for his humor, integrity and faithful service to the Bureau and staff.

✧ Mike Timmons

*Mark and Mike Timmons in 2006 ✧ Photo by Stacy Timmons*





I enjoyed working with Mark over many years and he was always witty. Sometimes he came across a little rough around the edges, but that really wasn't what he was all about. He was always capable and ready to help out on many different kinds of problems, especially digital ones. His knowledge of the Magdalena area was impressive, and I shall always be grateful for his assistance helping me contact several of the "old timers" when I was researching the major mines in the Kelly area. He will be missed.

✧ Bob Eveleth

*Mark, Dave McCraw and Geoff Rawling in 2004 during a geology training exercise in Taos for NASA astronauts ✧ Photo by Paul Bauer*



Mark was one of the best and nicest people I have ever had the good fortune to know. He was a productive and very helpful employee as well as a friend. I can't count the number of times he dropped everything he was doing to help with a project, to print materials or to assist with jobs that went well beyond his responsibilities, even long after I retired. He wore his Native American heritage with pride, and took his various roles on NMGS trips with equal pride and an unmatched willingness to deal with tarantulas, rattlesnakes and, worst of all, ornery people. I'll really miss seeing him here in Magdalena and at the Bureau.

✧ Peter A. Scholle

*Mark with a new fuzzy friend ✧ Photo by Peter A. Scholle*



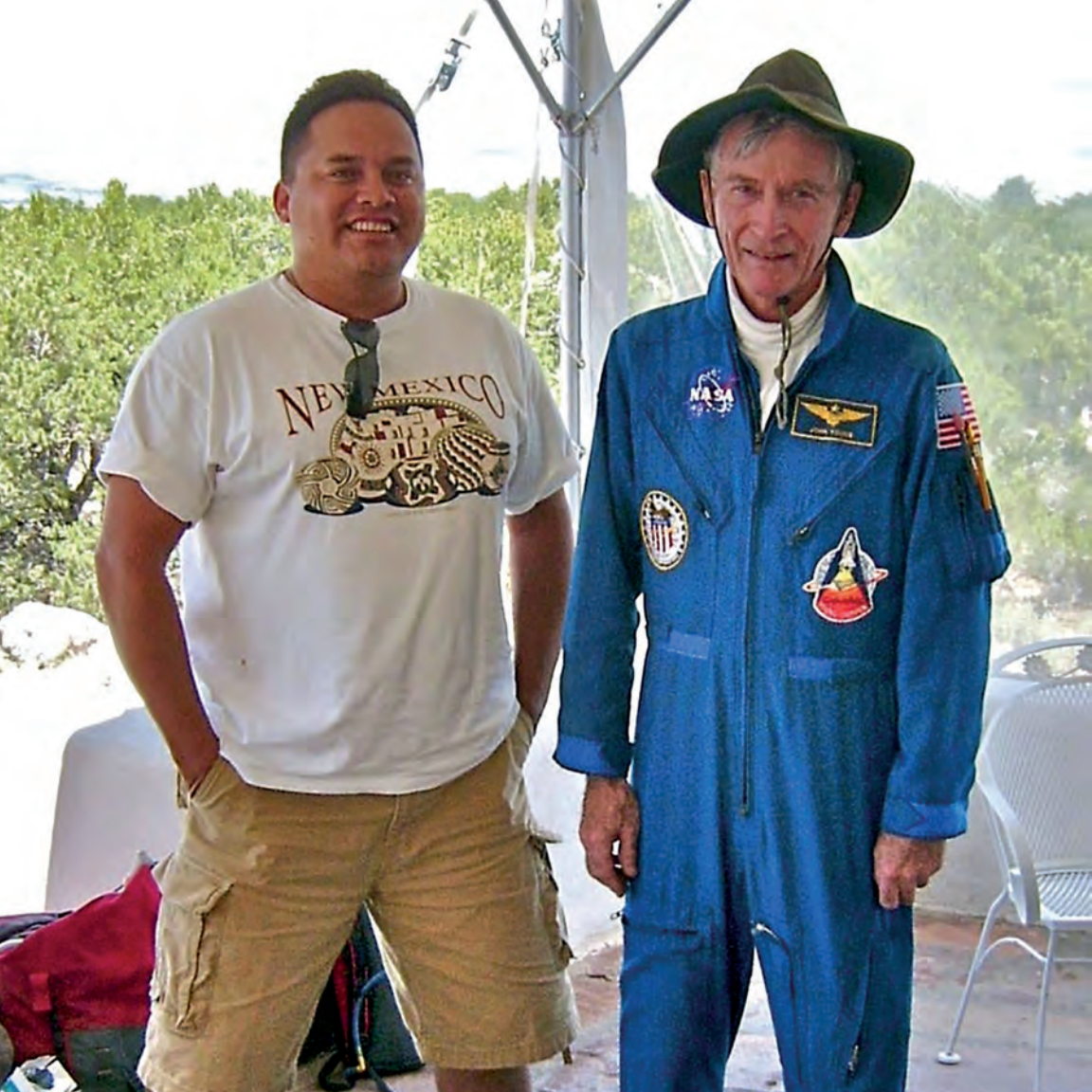


Mark may have had a grumpy exterior, but he was always there to help, whether at work, on NMGS field trips or when my husband got stuck in La Jencia Creek! We also shared a fondness for snakes, and I enjoyed our many conversations over the years discussing our sightings of rattlesnakes. Without his assistance, so many of my projects would not have come to fruition. I will miss his unique charm!

✧ Maureen Wilks

*Mark in the foreground helping Maureen Wilks and her husband get out of a sticky situation in 2005 ✧ Photo by Maureen Wilks*





I very much enjoyed working with Mark at the Bureau. He was really accomplished at what he did. And though he could seem a bit gruff at times, we always got along. He was very much an integral part of the Bureau for a long, long time. It won't be the same without him around.

✧ Ron Broadhead

*Mark in Taos with moonwalker Capt. John Young in 2004 ✧ Photo by Paul Bauer*



Despite Mark's seemingly surly presence, I appreciated his “get it done” attitude and his willingness to sit up front in every staff meeting, asking lots of questions. He will be missed by everyone.

✧ Stacy Timmons

*Mark in 2006 working on a geologic map ✧ Photo by Stacy Timmons*





Mark was a New Mexico original. We learned and laughed a lot while working together. I'll really miss his quirky sense of humor.

✧ Adam Read

Mark was our valued friend and colleague.  
He has been such an integral, gruff,  
outspoken and devoted member of the  
Bureau for so many years that it's hard to  
imagine being without him.

He will be greatly missed.

✧ Nelia Dunbar



